

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03 SP-02 L-01
INR-05 CIAE-00 ACDA-10 SSO-00 INRE-00 TRSE-00 DHA-02
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O R 161000Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2219
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 6920
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
USCINCEUR
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USDOCOSOUTH
USLOSACLANT
USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 1479

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR NATO
SUBJ: PERMREPS LUNCHEON, MARCH 15, 1977

SUMMARY: AT THEIR REGULAR LUNCHEON ON MARCH 15, NATO PERMREPS
DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING:

1. CSCE COMMISSION.
2. NATO AEW.
3. F-16.
4. EC-NINE AND HUMAN RIGHTS.
5. NAC CONSULTATION ON EASTERN EUROPE.

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6. NATO SUMMIT.
7. EXERCISE WINTEX 77.
8. SOVIET OBSERVATION OF EXERCISE LOCKED GATE.
9. SYG ANNOUNCEMENT ON DEPARTURE OF AMBASSADOR.

END SUMMARY.

1. CSCE COMMISSION. THE AMBASSADOR NOTED THAT THE CSCE COMMISS-
ION STAFF MEMBER WHO WILL ATTEND MARCH 22-24 CSCE EXPERTS MEETING
WILL BE A STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICER ON DETAIL TO CSCE COMMISSION

STAFF. HE POINTED OUT THAT PARTICIPATION BY COMMISSION STAFF IN MEETINGS BETWEEN US OFFICIALS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE DIRECTION AND SUBORDINATE TO THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE. HE ALSO OBSERVED THAT CSCE COMMISSION MEMBERS AND STAFF INVOLVED IN PREPARATIONS FOR BELGRADE, AND SERVING ON US DELEGATION AT BELGRADE WOULD BE SUBJECT TO THE SAME SECURITY RESTRICTIONS AS OTHER DELEGATION MEMBERS (STATE 52711, STATE 55986 AND STATE 50525).

2. NATO AEW. THE AMBASSADOR TOLD LUNS IN ADVANCE OF THE LUNCH THAT THE US WILL INFORM HIM FULLY ON THE RESULTS OF THE BROWN-LEBER DISCUSSIONS ON NATO AEW, AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT LUNS WOULD EXERCISE HIS GOOD OFFICES TO DISCOURAGE ANY PESSIMISTIC DISCUSSION WHICH MIGHT ARISE (STATE 57027). AT THE LUNCH, LUNS SAID THAT HE WAS NOT GLOOMY ABOUT THE BROWN-LEBER MEETING. HE NOTED THAT THE FRG SEEMS TO MAKE A LINKAGE BETWEEN AEW AND THE TANK QUESTION, AND ANY IMPLICATION OF EFFECTIVE REPUDIATION OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE TANKS COULD ONLY DAMAGE THE DOMESTIC POSITION OF LEBER.

KILLICK (UK) SAID THAT MULLEY WOULD WANT A MEETING OF DEFENSE MINISTERS ON MARCH 25, EITHER TO MAKE PROGRESS ON AEW, OR TO ASSESS THE CONSEQUENCES OF FAILURE. THE FINANCIAL EXPERTS MEETING SHOULD ALSO TAKE PLACE ON MARCH 21-22 AS SCHEDULED. CATALANO (ITALY) SAID THAT HIS DEFENSE MINISTER WOULD HAVE TROUBLE ATTENDING A MEETING ON MARCH 25, ALTHOUGH HIS ATTENDANCE WOULD BE
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CONCEIVABLE AT A MEETING ON MARCH 31. HARTOGH (NETHERLANDS) SAID THAT HIS DEFENSE MINISTER ALSO COULD NOT ATTEND ON MARCH 25, BUT COULD ATTEND ON MARCH 28 OR 31. LUNS SAID THAT IF A MINISTER CANNOT COME, HE SHOULD SEND HIS DEPUTY, BUT THE MEETING SHOULD BE HELD ON MARCH 25. HARDY (CANADA) SAID THAT HE WAS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO SEEK A POSTPONEMENT OF THE MINISTERS MEETING, BUT IN VIEW OF THE COMMENT BY KILLICK, HE WOULD REFRAIN. KILLICK, OFF THE RECORD, SAID THAT EVEN IF THERE WERE NO PROSPECT OF MAKING DECISIONS, THE MEETING SHOULD STILL BE HELD ON MARCH 25, BECAUSE THIS WOULD GIVE THE ALLIANCE ITS LAST CHANCE TO ARRIVE AT AN AGREEMENT.

3. F-16. LUNS SAID THAT THE DANISH AND BELGIAN DEFENSE MINISTERS HAD TOLD HIM THAT, CONTRARY TO EARLIER UNDERSTANDINGS, THE US NOW EXPECTS DENMARK AND BELGIUM TO MAKE A MUCH LARGER INITIAL PAYMENT ON THE F-16 THAN WAS ORIGINALLY CONTEMPLATED, AND THEY SIMPLY HAVE NO MONEY FOR SUCH PAYMENTS. HE SAID THAT THE BELGIAN DEFENSE MINISTER HAD GONE TO WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH SECRETARY BROWN, BUT HAD NOT YET RECEIVED A RESPONSE.

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BUSCH (NORWAY) SAID THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE MORE DETAILS.
LUNS SAID THAT GENERAL HAIG WOULD BE GETTING IN TOUCH WITH THE
FOUR NATO EUROPE COUNTRIES WHICH HAD PURCHASED F-16S TO LEARN
WHAT IS BOTHERING THEM.

COMMENT: WE WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING ANY POINTS WHICH
WASHINGTON WOULD WISH US TO MAKE HERE IN RESPONSE TO THE REPORTED
CONCERNS OF THE DANISH AND BELGIAN DEFENSE MINISTERS. END
COMMENT.

4. EC-NINE AND HUMAN RIGHTS. LUNS EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN ABOUT
REPORTS THAT PRIME MINISTER CALLAGHAN HAD DISCUSSED EASTERN
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HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES WITH PRESIDENT CARTER ON BEHALF OF THE
EC-NINE. HOWEVER, THE OTHER ALLIES HAVE HAD NO WORD FROM THE
EC-NINE, WHO HAD NOT CONSULTED IN THE ALLIANCE ON THIS QUESTION.
HE HPED THAT KILLICK WOULD REPORT THIS MATTER TO HIS GOVERNMENT.
KILLICK REPLIED THAT THERE IS NO COMPREHENSIVE POSITION OF THE
NINE ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES, BUT HE WOULD NEVERTHELESS REPORT
TO LONDON.

5. NAC CONSULTATION ON EASTERN EUROPE. PAULS (FRG) RAISED THE
HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTION IN CONNECTION WITH THE MARCH 17 NAC
CONSULTATION ON EASTERN EUROPE. HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL
TO BREAK DOWN THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE INTO THREE PARTS: (A) NATURE
OF THE STRUGGLE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN EASTERN EUROPE; (B) THE EFFECT

IN EASTERN EUROPE OF WESTERN SUPPORT FOR THEIR STRUGGLE; AND (C) POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH WESTERN SUPPORT FOR EAST-WEST RELATIONS. TINE (FRANCE) SAID THAT THE ALLIES SHOULD LOOK AT THE EAST AS A WHOLE, WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE SOVIET UNION, AND SHOULD NOT SINGLE OUT INDIVIDUAL SMALLER COUNTRIES IN EASTERN EUROPE.

6. NATO SUMMIT. LUNS RAISED THE QUESTION OF ATTENDANCE BY PRESIDENT CARTER AT THE MAY 10-11 NAC MINISTERIAL IN LONDON, RAISING IT TO A SUMMIT. THE AMBASSADOR SAID HE DID NOT HAVE INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS POINT. LUNS SAID IT WAS HARD TO IMAGINE THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD NOT ATTEND. PAULS STATED THAT IT WAS HARD TO CONCEIVE OF THE PRESIDENT RETURNING TO THE US ON THE EVE OF THE MINISTERIAL. LUNS THOUGHT THAT IF THE PRESIDENT DID RETURN TO THE US ON THE EVE OF THE MINISTERIAL, THIS WOULD PUT IN QUESTION THE VALUE OF THE MEETING. THE OTHER PERMREPS AGREED THAT THIS WOULD BE A VERY UNDESIRABLE SITUATION; TINE, HOWEVER, STRESSED THAT THIS WAS HIS PRIVATE REPEAT PRIVATE VIEW, AND PAULS SAID IT WAS THE VIEW OF HIS GOVERNMENT.

7. EXERCISE WINTEX 77. AMBASSADOR NOTED THE CONFUSION THAT SURROUNDED NATO'S DECLARATION OF GENERAL ALERT DURING WINTEX. THIS EXERCISE RAISED SEVERAL IMPORTANT PROBLEMS, WHICH THE DPC
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SHOULD CONSIDER. HE UNDERLINED THAT THE EXPERTS SHOULD DEVELOP A PRELIMINARY LIST OF MAJOR PROBLEM AREAS FOR THE DPC TO ADDRESS WITHIN THE NEXT THREE OR FOUR WEEKS.

PAULS FELT THAT IT WAS TOTALLY UNREALISTIC TO ASSUME THAT AFTER THREE DAYS, DEFENSE ON THE NORTH GERMAN PLAIN WOULD HAVE SO DETERIORATED AS TO SIGNIFY AN END OF EFFECTIVE CONVENTIONAL DEFENSE. HE ALSO SAID THAT THE SCENARIO ON YUGOSLAVIA WAS UNREALISTIC, SINCE THAT COUNTRY WOULD NOT COLLAPSE AFTER THREE DAYS. KILLICK AGREED WITH THE LATTER STATEMENT. HARTOGH SAID HIS IMPRESSION FROM THE EXERCISE IS THAT GENERAL CLOSE (AUTHOR OF "DEFENSELESS EUROPE") IS NOT SO VERY WRONG. PAULS (REFLECTING AN INCOMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF WINTEX'S ORGANIZATION) THOUGHT THAT SHAPE HAD NOT GIVEN SUFFICIENT CONSIDERATION TO POLITICAL FACTORS. KIRCA (TURKEY) NOTED THAT THE SCENARIO HAD BEEN PREPARED BY THE MILITARY COMMITTEE, WITHOUT CONSULTATION WITH THE DPC, AND THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER FOR THE SCENARIO TO HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED TO DPC BEFOREHAND.

8. SOVIET OBSERVATION OF EXERCISE LOCKED GATE. KILLICK SAID THE UK HAD EVIDENCE THAT SOVIET RECONNAISSANCE PLANES OPERATING FROM CONAKRY HAD BEEN OBSERVING EXERCISE LOCKED GATE.

9. SYG ANNOUNCEMENT ON DEPARTURE OF AMBASSADOR. LUNS ANNOUNCED THAT THE AMBASSADOR WOULD BE DEPARTING AT THE END OF THE MONTH, AND EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN REGARDING THE BREVITY OF THE AMBASSADOR'S TOUR AS THE US PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE. HIS REMARKS WERE

VOCALLY SHARED BY THE OTHER PERMREPS. THE AMBASSADOR STATED
THAT HE WAS DEEPLY APPRECIATIVE OF THEIR KIND REMARKS, AND
THAT HE WAS SURE THAT WHOEVER WAS CHOSEN AS HIS REPLACEMENT
WOULD EFFECTIVELY AND WORTHILY REPRESENT THE US IN THE COUNCIL.
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